

 **FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

**May 2024
Newsletter**

*April Showers
brought the*

**FUMC
Prayer Garden
the most
beautiful**

May Flowers!



Photo by: Leslie L.



Photo by: Brandi B.



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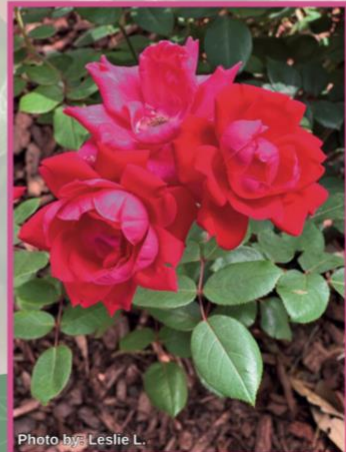


Photo by: Leslie L.

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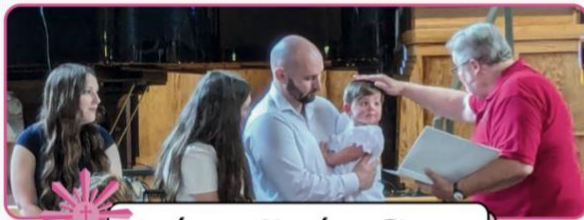
Photo by: Lisa M.

Welcome!

Join Us For
Sunday Worship!

Modern Service
9:45 a.m.

Traditional Service
11:00 a.m.



Delaney Spadoni Baptism

LOL CHUCKLE CORNER



UPCOMING SERMON SERIES



What is one of the first things our Parents try to teach us? It's the Golden Rule, isn't it? Do unto others..., but how many of us really live this way? This series will explore how we can grow in following Jesus' example in forming and maintaining healthy relationships.

April 7

Key 1- The Gold Standard

Mathew 7: 12-14

April 14

Rev. Penn Morgan

Guest Pastor

April 21

Rev. Karli Pidgeon

Guest Preacher

April 28

Key 2: The Key Words of Life

Matthew 5: 23-24; Colossians 3: 13

May 5

Key 3: The Key to Overcoming Challenges

2nd Corinthians 4: 8-9; Philippians 4: 6-7

May 12

Key 4: The Key to My Father's World

Genesis 1: 31; Romans 8: 19-21

May 19

Key 5: The Keys to Winning Well

Ecclesiastes 2: 9-11; Matthew 16: 24-27

May 26

Rev. Tiffanie Lyons

Guest Preacher

June 2

Key 6: The Key to a Long Life

Philippians 3: 10-16



Announcements



FUMC's Disaster Response Team provides support to our community in the event of prolonged power outages in the immediate community.

This support takes the form of a Daytime Cooling & Charging Center on our church campus, where any affected community member may come to cool off, charge their electronics, have some refreshment or a hot meal.

If you'd like to be a member of this team, please contact Alison Slaney at alisonslaney@gmail.com or 985 285 7370.

MAY 5TH IS SENIOR SUNDAY AND WE ARE CELEBRATING THE *Class of* **2024**



Austin Wombles
Blake Stanley
Caleb Myers
Cole Gumina
Dillon Sanchez
Eli Price
Jackson Batuk
Josh Rowley
Kaitlyn Bingham
MollieAnn Anti
Robin Suckow
Sage Faciane
William Suckow



Congratulations!



WE ARE HOSTING OUR LAST LUNCHEON UNTIL FALL!

All Are Welcome!

May 8, 2024
10:30 a.m.
Family Life Center

From Pastors Pen



Well friends, I think the church mouse just might be on to something. “A Bible that’s falling apart usually belongs to someone who isn’t.” The Bible, God’s word, our guide to true life and living in harmony with others, needs to be read regularly if it is to have benefit for our lives. So, is your Bible dusty from lack of use, or falling apart? I hope it’s falling apart.

You see, Jesus expects our reading of the Bible to change us, to make us more like him, to move us along towards “perfection” to use Wesley’s language. John Wesley said that once you’ve been born again, once you’ve received God’s gift of salvation, the very next thing that happens is that you are to move into the process of Sanctification. You are to be sanctified. To be sanctified means to be made Holy. But what is this holiness that John Wesley was talking about? What is this goal of the Christian life?

We have another way of talking about that here at First Church. We say that it is our job to live as Christians in ways that inspire people to get to know Jesus, ways that invite people to grow in their faith and encourage people wherever they are in their journey. In order to transform our community. So, when we’re inspiring or inviting or encouraging people that’s our holiness, that’s what holiness looks like here at First Church.

This also ties into the “rules of Methodism:” do no harm, do good, stay in love with God. Living this is greatly enhanced by including it in your morning and evening prayers.

- In the morning you pray, asking God, Dear Lord, in this day help me to do no harm, help me to do good, and help me to stay in love with you.
- At night, as you go to bed, you pray: Dear Lord, in this day have I done harm? You pause and reflect and usually we find there are circumstances we could have handled better, people we could have been kinder too. The good news is that in the next part of the prayer, Lord, did I do good...we usually have some items in this column. So we’ve reflected on where we could have done better as well as on what we did well.
- Then we come to the final part of the prayer, Lord did I stay in love with you? And the truth of the matter is, if you have not thought of God since your morning prayer, you haven’t. The good news though is that you noticed, and in noticing you can make a change.

Jesus doesn’t expect us to be perfect, but he does expect us to try to become more like him. If you’re exactly the same kind of Christian you were a year ago, you’re not trying very hard. I invite you to work on living in ways that inspire, invite, and encourage the people around you, and to each and every day do your best to live the rules of Methodism.

Take Care, *Pastor John*

Kid & Youth Ministries



KIDS CLUB Sundays 9:45 a.m.

- Pre-K 3/4 & Kindergarten
Room 501
- Grades 1-6
Treehouse Room



KIDS CHURCH Sundays 11:00 a.m.

- Gather in Sanctuary, then
to the Treehouse Room



HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SMALL GROUP Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

- Media Room

Join us on Sunday mornings for Kids Club at 9:45 a.m! This month we will learn about our commitment to the Lord, how that changes things!

Ms. Tanya follows Pastor John's sermon series at an age appropriate level for kids Church at 11:00 a.m.!

This year we will do VBS a little different, it will be spread out over the course of six weeks during Summer Nights! Stay tuned for more info. We can't wait to "Start the Party and celebrate the good news!"



For More Information:



Lisa Carlton
985.966.8660



YOUTH SUNDAY CLASS | 11:00 a.m. YOUTH SUNDAY EVENING CLASS | 5:00-7:00 p.m.

- Youth Room (Back of Gym)

The graduation season is upon us. We will be celebrating Senior Sunday on May 5th. The seniors will be recognized at both the 9:45 and 11:00 services.

We will be heading to Gatlinburg on June 2nd for the week to do a couple of service projects.

I would like to take the time to thank everyone who was involved in spreading the mulch on the playground!

We recently did a devotional on gratitude. The scripture is 1 Thessalonians 5:18 "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Let us remember to give thanks in all circumstances. Take some time this month to give thanks, not because every situation is good, but because God is ALWAYS good!

If you or someone you know is going into the 6th - 12th grade, we would love for you to join us!

For More Information:



crossroads@firstumcslidell.org

1 Timothy 4:12 - "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity."

Music Ministries



IS NOW LIVE!

**"SAVE OUR ORGAN...
BE AN ORGAN DONOR!"**

HELP US FILL UP THE ORGAN METER WITH YOUR DONATION! >>>

To become an ORGAN DONOR, please complete a Donor Pledge card and place it in the Offertory Plate or turn it into the Office during the month of May. After making your commitment, you can make your donations from **May 1 - December 31, 2024**.

Please make your donation using the following options below that are most convenient to you and your family.

DONATION OPTIONS

PERSONAL CHECK:

- Personal check with "ORGAN DONATION" noted in memo.



ONLINE:

- Scan the QR Code with your cellphone camera.
- Click the link that pops up to the FUMC E-Giving site.
- Enter donation amount.
- Click recurring gift.
- Under pledge, scroll down and select **ORGAN DONATION- CONSOLE**.
- Choose your frequency and start date.
- Choose preferred payment type.
- Click submit.



*** For questions, please contact committee chair, Pete Broussard. Phone: 504.231.5675 or Email: pob1of3@gmail.com ***

PIANO RECITAL NATHAN D. SUMRALL

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024 - 7 PM
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - SLIDELL, LA
WORKS BY: DEBUSSY, POULENC, CHOPIN,
GERSHWIN, KRIEGER (WORLD PREMIERE), & OTHERS



**Do you or your kids love music?
Join our MUSIC MINISTRIES!**

Adult Chancel Choir

- REHEARSAL WEDNESDAY EVENINGS 7 PM | SANCTUARY

Adult Praise Team

- REHEARSAL WEDNESDAY EVENINGS 5:30 PM SANCTUARY
- REHEARSAL SUNDAY MORNINGS 9:00 AM SANCTUARY

Nathan
(601) 297-8061

nathand.sumrall@gmail.com

Kids Chimes Choir

Come see the Chime Choir perform at the 11:00 a.m. service on May 5th!

HANDBELL "OPEN REHEARSALS!"

YOU ARE WELCOME TO "COME RING WITH US!"

- No experience necessary!
- No commitment necessary!
- No age limit!

Thursdays:
MAY 16th, 23rd and 30th
JUNE 20th and 27th
7:00 p.m. | Music Suite

Kids Welkin Handbell Choir



Marlene
(985) 640-0427

Contact Director Barbara Williams! (985) 768-2407
Text or leave a message

barbara.williams110@gmail.com

Pentecost



Pentecost was the celebration of the beginning of the early weeks of harvest. In Palestine, there were two harvests each year. The early harvest came during the months of May and June; the final harvest came in the Fall. Pentecost was the celebration of the beginning of the early wheat harvest, which meant that Pentecost always fell sometime during the middle of the month of May or sometimes in early June.

Modern Christians observe Pentecost as a holiday, not to celebrate a wheat harvest, but to remember when the Holy Spirit invaded the Church in Acts 2. On Pentecost Sunday, the Holy Spirit filled the Church with power and added 3,000 new believers. The account in Act 2 reports that, after Jesus ascended into heaven, Jesus' followers were gathered together for the Feast of Harvest (aka Pentecost), and the Holy Spirit "filled the whole house where they were sitting" ([Acts 2:2](#)).

"All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them" ([Acts 2:4](#)). This strange occurrence drew a large crowd, and Peter stood up to speak to them about repentance and the gospel of Christ ([Acts 2:14](#)).

By the end of the day that the Holy Spirit came, the Church grew by 3,000 people ([Acts 2:41](#)). This is why Christians still celebrate Pentecost.

John Gill expresses the significance in his commentary:

"Through this baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire, the apostles became more knowing, and had a greater understanding of the mysteries of the Gospel, and were more qualified to preach it to people of all nations and languages."



Finance News

:: Organ Fund ::

It has now been a few years since it was identified that our Organ console needed replacement and a fund was established to make that a reality for our Church. While the Organ Fund was never officially put on the back burner the flame was certainly turned down a bit as our country faced record inflation rates that both affected the church budget as well as the personal budgets of our congregation. We thank all of you who continued to donate to the Organ Fund and let it maintain a simmer during this time when the heat was low.

In the first finance committee meeting of 2024 we supported a proposal from Trustees to turn the flame on the Organ Fund back up to high. As a committee we felt that the church is in a strong enough position overall at this point to support this campaign. We are excited to see the rollout of the new campaign in May as we know there has already been a lot work that has gone into this behind the scenes.

Thank you so much for the generous donations that have already started to come in. We certainly look forward to the sweet sounds of a successful campaign!

:: Apportionments ::

In other news in March the Louisiana Methodist Conference announced that 2024 apportionments are going to be reduced by 20%, and an additional 5% reduction for all churches that paid 100% of their apportionment in 2022 and 2023. For us here at FUMC Slidell that means a savings of over \$12K in what was budgeted for our 2024 apportionment!

Missions

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the children's homes!



BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY, WE WERE ABLE TO DONATE

941 ITEMS!

- 303 PAIRS OF SOCKS
- 215 PAIRS OF UNDERWEAR
- 24 BRAS
- 39 SPORTS BRAS
- 23 PAIRS OF BLUE JEANS
- 70 WASHABLE MARKERS
- 6 SKETCH PADS
- 25 BIRTHDAY GIFT BAGS
- 12 RUBBER BAND BRACELET KITS
- 6 PACKS OF WHITE CARD STOCK
- 154 PAINT BRUSHES
- 3 PAINT PALETTES
- 8 SETS OF ACRYLIC PAINTS
- 3 JACKETS
- 6 SWEATSHIRTS
- 4 WOODEN HAIRBRUSHES
- 5 PAIR OF SWEATPANTS
- 10 PAIRS OF PANTS
- 16 T-SHIRTS
- 9 MISC. ITEMS



LIVING HOPE MINISTRIES (LHM)

TUESDAY, MAY 7TH

5:30-6:30 P.M. | THE GATHERING PLACE

Living Hope Ministries is a welcoming, caring Christian group which offers love, support, comfort and education for people living with mental illness and their families.



Family Support Group

Free In-Person & Online Support

TUESDAY, MAY 7TH

7:00-8:30 P.M. | ROOM 302

This group is facilitated by NAMI trained individuals who have family members with mental illness. The group draws on collective experience and wisdom as they discuss mental health issues and find solutions in a confidential setting.

Please contact Carol Broussard for more information.



(504) 231-3100

Barnabas Writing Ministry

The name Barnabas means 'Son of Encouragement'. Throughout the New Testament Scriptures, Barnabas is credited for having encouraged numerous men and women in the faith.

The Barnabas Writing Ministry began in 2009 following the death of a teenage boy in Slidell. By sending hand written notes, each Barnabas Writer prayerfully offers words of comfort and hope, strength and encouragement to those facing a time of crisis, loss, grief or challenge.

Contact Jane Moore to volunteer!



(404) 895-0277



janepaints@bellsouth.net

NEW
COIN JAR
for Missions

LOOK UNDER THOSE COFFER CUSHIONS!
BREAK THAT PIGGY BANK!
SHAKE OUT YOUR PURSE!

Drop Your Coins in Our Jar Because...

CHANGE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Located in the Narthex!

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." - 2 Corinthians 9:7



Summer Nights



SUMMER *Nights*

AT FIRST CHURCH

Planning is well underway for this time of fun and fellowship! Look for class offerings, details and registration by the beginning of June!

As of now we have plans to offer a music group, a book club, a Methodism class, and possibly others. Children will have their own Summer Nights Kids Edition and Jr. High youth will have a special group of their own.

Summer Nights will also be a great opportunity to get to know our new pastor, Rev. Lisa Pridmore. It'll be a six-week welcome party!

Mark the six Wednesdays from July 3 – August 7 on your calendar! Pre-registration will be required as some classes will be limited in number.

Like last year, a simple meal will be served at 5:30 p.m. before everyone heads out to their class. Help with setting up before the meal and cleaning up after is needed.



If you are interested in helping with one or more Wednesdays, please contact Leslie Landeche at llandeche@firststumclidell.org

Scout Corner

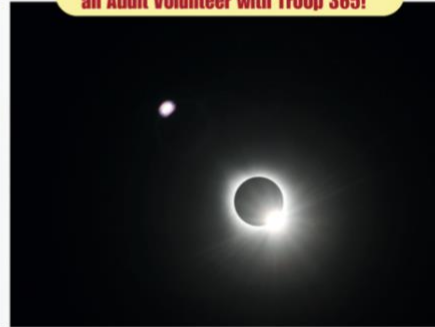
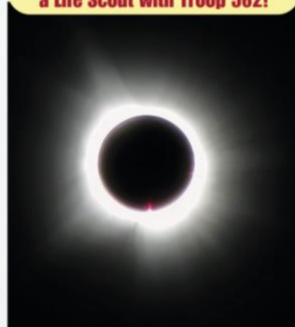


Troop 562 has had a busy month! We organized a group consisting of members from 10 different units from Southeast Louisiana Council to see the totality of the eclipse in Arkansas. While out there we had a humorous shirt that acted as our patrol flag for the camp out. Check out one of our campsite meals! Jambalaya was a hit that we shared with Arkansas camp staff. The food was far better at our campsite than the dining hall!



Photo by Petyon Merz, a Life Scout with Troop 562!

Photo by Jody Baker, an Adult Volunteer with Troop 365!



100 year Camporee Attendees



The very next weekend our troop attended the Council 100 Year Anniversary Camporee where one of the Troop's Scoutmasters, Catrina Garrett, won first place in the cobbler cookoff vs 14!

Earning Those Badges!



Currently our troop is working on First Aid Merit Badge and will be starting Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge soon before this active hurricane season starts. If you or someone you know is curious about these topics and would like to learn with us, just stop in for a visit.



Troop is always recruiting All Youth ages 10-17!
For more information email SlidellTroop562@gmail.com.

Pew Puzzle

R F H Y A C I N T H T N M D S P P
 E T I S M U I N A R E G L U H J P
 Z N R L R O S E P F I R N E H B B
 C S I L L Y R A M A E F C W T Z B
 G D S E Y Q N O X D L C R P O D U
 J C O B R M A G N O L I A S Y S T
 F F S E V S I E W J X O J R E C T
 S O V U X P V E G U K D C I P C E
 L R S L C A R N A T I O N A U C R
 I S E B L S G W O B P O N V R D C
 D Y I S P I L U T O E S H O A S U
 O T L I L A C S P P I Z C H R X P
 F H I G P S F P Z E P U L T Z I S
 F I L V F Y Y A S X S I N H O U Q
 A A Y Y M A Z A L E A S M C T N S
 D D A I S Y E D N S M U M T M E E
 N J D Y T R A E H G N I D E E L B



Bleeding Heart	Buttercups	Sunflowers	Amaryllis
Bluebells	Carnation	Daffodils	Daylilies
Forsythia	Geraniums	Magnolias	Hyacinth
Lavender	Azaleas	Dahlias	Pansies
Peonies	Crocus	Lilacs	Tulips
Daisy	Poppy	Iris	Rose

United Methodist News



Now is the time to embark on a journey of spiritual leadership with Lay Servant Ministry courses, offered by Lay Servant Ministries and the Board of Laity of The Louisiana Conference.

Whether it's the Introduction to Lay Ministry course, where you'll discover your gifts which can lead to effective

leadership in your community or Leading Worship, an offering for those called to guide worship, you'll be ready to pioneer HōPE in your community.

Introduction to Lay Ministry (Basic Course)

This is a foundational course recommended for every person involved in any lay ministry or holding a leadership position. Participants use scripture and engage in exercises designed to help them understand and employ their gifts, learn about servant leadership and developing future leaders, and discuss concepts of Christian conferencing and decision making and the importance of remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices.

Prior to attending, participants must purchase and complete Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course Participant's Book

Lay Servants as Christian Transformational Leaders (Advanced Course)

This course is recommended for people who lead in lay ministries in or outside of the church or who hold leadership positions. The United Methodist Church needs Christian Transformational leaders to accomplish its stated mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. In this course, we will explore scriptural foundations of Christian transformational leadership, develop principles and skills for organizational effectiveness, and learn how to lead movements of hope in our congregations and communities.

Prior to attending, participants must purchase and read Lay Servant as Christian Transformational Leaders

Leading Worship (Advanced Course)

This course is recommended for people who regularly or who may be called on occasionally to lead a group or congregation in Worship. It is also one of the required courses for those individuals who wish to receive certification as a Certified Lay Speaker. The materials used in this course are written for use by both pastors and lay worship leaders. Whether you lead worship every week or just want to be able to assist or fill in when your pastor is out, this course covers the fundamentals of Christian worship as well as how to use United Methodist resources to plan and execute engaging worship.

Prior to attending, participants must purchase and read "Worshiping with United Methodists"

:: Locations and Details ::

May 18th

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

All classes are in person and will be held in Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe, and the New Orleans district.

June 1st

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

All classes are in person and will be held in Shreveport district.

:: Registration ::

\$25

Includes lunch and refreshments.

Participants are responsible for acquiring course materials, completing the reading, and completing an assignment based on the materials prior to the course date.

May Events

1st



Organ Campaign Kicks Off!

5th



beginning of 9:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. services Sanctuary

Seniors and family will go to the Family Life Center for a celebration reception after the 11:00 a.m. presentation.



11:00 a.m. service Sanctuary



7th



5:30 p.m. Gathering Place



7:00 p.m. Room 302

8th



10:30 a.m. Family Life Center

9th

Kindergarten Graduation



10:00 a.m. Sanctuary

10th

Piano Recital



7:00 p.m. Sanctuary

11th



8:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall

Breakfast/Workday

12th



17th



Last day of preschool!

26th

Rev. Tiffanie Lyon will be preaching!



27th





433 Erlanger Ave.
Slidell, LA 70458



985.643.6437



fumc@firstumcslidell.org



@FUMCslidell

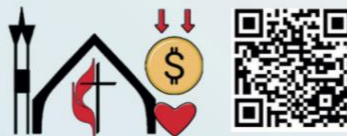


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SCAN TO GIVE TO FUMC



**Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for
the Transformation Of Our Community**